

FANTASTIC READERS POLL RESULTS INSIDE!

MARVEL
7th Jan 89

THE REAL

Nº30 38p

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GHOSTBUSTERS™



HQ



Grab your party hat and your streamers, and see in the New Year with **THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS** issue thirty! The Ghostbusters are in the party spirit in this fabulous first issue of 1989, but before the festivities can begin, there is some serious busting to be done **Just In Time For New Year!** Peter's New Year Resolution is to be nice to Slimer and Ray's appears to be to cultivate his more creative side when he finds himself framed in **View to a Chill!** Plus, the moment you've all been waiting for – the results of last year's great **Readers' Poll**. Look out this year for all the great competitions that will be appearing. If you entered **Kellogg's Frosties' Design A Bike Competition** in **THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS**, then you may be one of the lucky winners. S. Pickett, Rafid Mushrafi, M. McAuley, R. Pearce and Richard Wall were selected as winners from the thousands of entries, and they will each receive a fabulous new bike.

The Real Ghostbusters: Here to save The World – It's their New Year's Resolution. Happy New Year!

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THE REAL GHOST BUSTERS™



PETER
VENKMAN



EGON
SPENGLER



RAY
STANTZ



WINSTON
ZEDDMORE



JANINE
MELNITZ

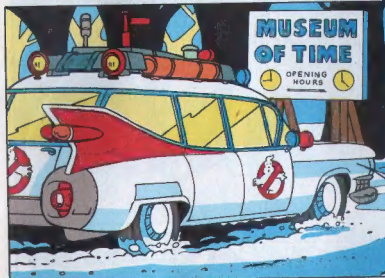


SLIMER

THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS™

JUST IN
TIME FOR **NEW YEAR!**

OUTSIDE A MUSEUM
IN NEW YORK...



I DON'T
BELIEVE THIS.
IT'S NEW YEAR'S
EVE AND WE'RE
ON A BUST!

GHOSTBUSTERS! THANK YOU
FOR COMING AT SUCH SHORT
NOTICE... I'M PROFESSOR
C. CLOCK, THE PROPRIETOR!

WHAT
DOES THE C
IN YOUR NAME
STAND FOR?

DON'T ASK...
IT'S NOT THE
TIME OR THE
PLACE!

INSIDE...

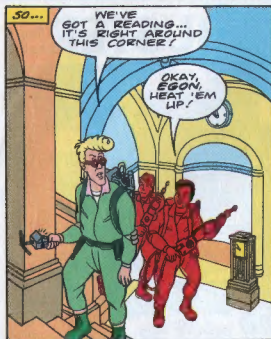
WHAT'S MORE
IMPORTANT IS THAT
YOU BUST THE AWFUL,
WHAILING SPECTER
THAT'S HAUNTING
THIS BUILDING
BEFORE TONIGHT!

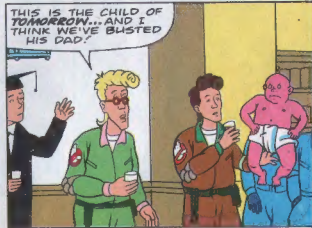
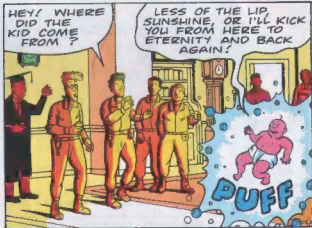
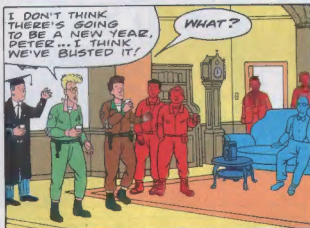
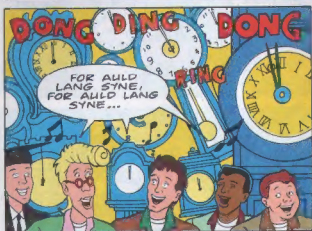
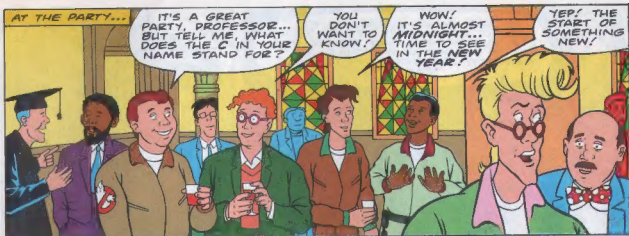
WHY? IS
THE WORLD GOING
TO END IF WE
DON'T?

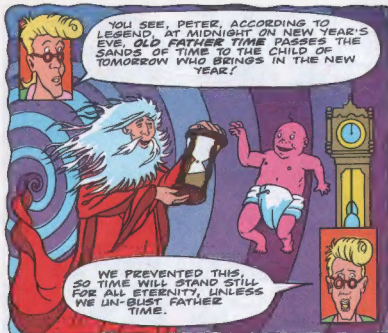
NO, BUT IT WILL SPOIL
THE GREAT PARTY I'M
GOING TO THROW TONIGHT!

OH!

OKAY, GUYS, LET'S
PRE-PARTY AND
BUST THIS PARTY-
POOPING SPOOK!









STAN
LEE
PRESENTS:

DEATH'S HEAD

TM

THE PLANET GODILUX, EARTH DATE: 8167



BUT SURELY WITH ALL THE LOW-LIFE SCUM WE'VE GOT BACK HOME IN THE LOS ANGELES RESETTLEMENT, YOU COULD HAVE FOUND US A BETTER JOB THAN THIS!



LISTEN, SPRATT, YOU STICK TO RUNNING THE CLERICAL SIDE OF MY BUSINESS AND LEAVE THE CONTRACTS TO ME, EH?



ANYWAY, CLIENTS' MONEY IS GOOD, EH? BEYOND THAT, I DON'T CARE WHO I KILL. WHO THEY ARE, WHAT THEY'VE DONE, DOESN'T CONCERN ME. I'M PURELY A BUSINESSMAN, RIGHT?



WIPIING OUT INVADING MUNCHKYNVS?

IT'S A LIVING, YES?

YOU DO TAKE CANDYCARD, DON'T YOU?



ON SALE NOW • 28 PAGES • FULL COLOUR • MONTHLY

SPENGLER'S

SPIRIT

GUIDE



At this time of annual change, as the old year bows out and the new year steps in for his term of office, I am driven to think of the progress that The Ghostbusters have made in the past year, and wonder what achievements we will make in the coming twelve months. As far as research into the paranormal goes, this last year of Ghostbuster operations has made several striding leaps forward, and I feel that it's only fair for me to catalogue them for the record.

PROTONIC STREAMS

- a) These should never be crossed under any circumstances.
- b) If you find you have to cross them, be prepared for either:
 - i. Serious trouble.
 - ii. Bad craziness.
- c) Though you should never cross them, you may be driven to if confronted by:
 - i. Gozer, or any multi-dimensional cross rip of biblical proportions.
 - ii. Serious trouble.
 - iii. Any reasonably good excuse to do so.
- d) Reasonable excuses do not include:
 - i. Lighting the gas hob.
 - ii. Wanting to see what hap-

pens when you cross them.
iii. Doing it for a laugh.

NEW TECHNICAL TERMINOLOGY

- a) Ecto splat – A device designed to instantly vaporise any ectoplasmic entity.
- b) "This doesn't usually happen" – A phrase that roughly translates as "Here we go again."
- c) Serious trouble – A term used to define the usual run-of-the-mill-end-of-The-World-type situation.
- d) Bad craziness – A term

used to describe anything marginally worse than serious trouble.

e) Holographic Spectro-image Enhancer (or 'Snap-O-Plasm') – A device used to holographically detect ectoplasmic entities.

DEMONS

- a) May be regarded as 'Serious trouble' or 'Bad craziness' depending on their class.
- b) They are only afraid of other, bigger demons.
- c) They are a reasonable excuse to cross the streams. (see the section on Protonic Streams).

MISCELLANEOUS FINDINGS

- a) Don't ever volunteer to hug Slimer.
- b) Avoid 'Bad craziness' where possible.
- c) Never let Winston drive.
- d) The food in the fridge you were saving for tomorrow's lunch will not be there if Peter comes in from a bust after the takeaway has closed.
- e) Never go out with a girl named Zuul.
- f) Study the *Spirit Guide* as often as possible and LEARN THOSE FACTS!

Okay?

NEW YEAR NUISANCE!



Story JOHN FREEMAN Art BRIAN WILLIAMSON and DAVE HARWOOD

“We’re going to a party, we’re going to a party!” sang Peter Venkman, as ECTO-1 headed back from *The Museum of Time*. He looked at the other Ghostbusters, as they neared HQ.

“Looks like Janine is waiting for us,” muttered Egon. The receptionist was standing by the large doors of the HQ in a thick coat, with Slimer hovering beside her, looking anxious.

“Well, she’ll want to get off to that New Year Party too,” said Peter. “Look, she’s already dressed up for it. Professor Clock’s little do put me in the mood for some dancing!”

“No dancing yet, Peter,” snapped Janine. “There’s some ghostly goings-on in *Times Square* and you all got elected to check it out.”

“But Janine,” moaned Peter, “It’s New Year! We’ve already been on one bust tonight, and the Professor gave us all this food and drink for our party,” Peter gestured to the back of ECTO-1. Slimer licked his spectral lips in eager anticipation. “Can’t this wait till morning?”

“If you don’t get to *Times Square* fast,” Janine replied. “It looks like there might not even be a morning. There’s some problem with the electronic clock there.”

“New Year,” said Winston as Egon turned ECTO-1 back down the street. “Don’t you just love it?”

“What’s the problem, officer?”

A police patrolman stepped away from the irate crowd blocking the entrance to *Times Square*. “Some sort of ghoul is holding up the electronic apple,” he explained, pointing at the building that housed the enormous light display. “It won’t drop, and all these people are waiting to welcome in the New Year when it does. Things are getting pretty ugly around here.”

“Slimer, didn’t I tell you to stay in the car?” snapped Peter, taking a Proton Pack from the ghost, who was only trying to be helpful. “Leave it to us, sir – we’ll soon sort this spook out, whatever it is.”

“Why do I get the feeling that this may not be as easy as Peter thinks?” asked Winston, looking at Egon.

“Peter always did think too easily,” replied Egon. “Always skips the hard parts. Come on, we’d better see what we can do.”

The Ghostbusters headed for the building,

looking up at the electronic apple whose falling would mark the beginning of the New Year for millions of Americans across the continent. Several ghosts were visible, floating around it and throwing the odd ectoplasmic snowball at the people in the crowd. Ray looked at his watch. “You know, that apple might just fall so late, that people in Los Angeles will greet New Year at the right time for once.”

“I always did get confused visiting Los Angeles at New Year,” said Peter. “They’re five hours behind us, time-wise, you know.”

“Only five hours? It always seems longer.”

“Temporal discorporation,” explained Egon, not explaining at all.

“Look out!” shouted Ray, pushing Peter straight into a volley of ecto-balls.

“Yech!” squealed Peter, expecting to be covered in slime.

“Most unscientific,” mused Egon, “See? No slime . . . but there should be.” It was true – Peter was spotless (apart from a few stains from the food he’d been guzzling at Professor Clock’s party).

“No ghost tries to slime me and gets away with it,” snarled Peter. “Let’s get ‘em!”

The Ghostbusters hurried into the building and up in the lift, to the computer room which controlled the display. “Hey, where did Slimer go?” asked Ray.

“Never mind him now. Top floor – computers, electronics – and ghosts!” shouted Winston, leaping out of the lift. The others followed. Their mouths dropped open in surprise.

“But . . . but . . . we’ve already busted all these spooks before!” It was true. All around them, Babblers, the Mad Hatter, the Shop-Lifting Ghost, demons, gangsters, the Spectrum Spook, more demons, even more demons – the room was positively full of ghosts!

“I haven’t witnessed this much paranormal manifestation since the containment chamber was opened last year,” said Egon.

“Weird,” said Peter. “Well, let’s bust them and get to the party!”

“Wait!” shouted Egon, pulling Peter back. “These aren’t your usual ghosts!”

“Pardon?”

“It’s party time!” squealed a nearby Gibberung, sailing straight through Peter’s Proton Gun. The ghosts cackled furiously, and returned to their mysterious work on the clock.

"Okay, what's the party in aid of?" asked Peter. "If it's fun, we may join in."

"No fun you'll have, that's for sure," screamed a Babbler. "Can't stop, you're being a bore!"

"Time stop, year back again," muttered a peculiar pink-blue-green phantom that Winston remembered busting in a laundromat. "We beat you second time round, though."

"I'm beginning to come to terms with the situation here," mused Egon.

"You mean you know what's going on?" asked Ray.

"Didn't I just say that? Anyway, it seems to me that these ghosts are the ghosts of ones we've captured over the last year."

"Ghosts of ghosts? That's crazy!"

"Anything's possible when you're dealing with ghosts," said Winston.

"I believe they are attempting to reverse time at this significant point in the continuum, and escape their original incarceration," finished Egon, staring at a demon with a wispy mallet in its hand as it tried to hammer a computer disk to pieces.

"Turning back time? Can they do that?" asked Ray.

"Anything's poss-" began Winston.

"Okay, Okay, I think I get the picture," said Peter. "So, our Proton Guns won't work on these ghosts because they're not here at all." He looked at the ghosts again, frowning. "Maybe we can talk this one out. I can usually talk people into anything!"

"Now I am worried," replied Winston.

Peter snapped his fingers, did a strange little dance and walked into the middle of the ghostly work party. "Er, guys - if I could just have your attention for a minute?"

The ghosts stopped.

"Good. Now, I don't want to upset your plans or anything, but don't you think that you're being a little hasty here?"

"What's hasty about escaping your containment chamber at Ghostbusters HQ?" shouted a demon."

"Well, I mean stopping the year. It's a little extreme, isn't it? I mean, doesn't it rather prevent anything interesting happening to you in 1989?"

"What do you mean?" asked the Ghostbuster, putting down his fiddle for a moment.

"For example, the attempted rescue of all captured spooks by a dozen ghouls from

Gimberley on the 28th April 1989. Surely you haven't forgotten that already?"

"Erm. . ."

"Or the mass breakout of spooks on Halloween from a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow, left by mistake near the containment chamber?"

"Or the giant ghostly snowman incident of 17th December, 1989," added Winston who was beginning to get the idea.

"The alternative Christmas Continuum heist of March 13th," put in Egon.

"You see? There are plenty of chances to escape in good time, without all this nonsense!"

A Babbler eyed the Ghostbuster carefully. "Convinced we're not, you sorry lot."

"They're not convinced, Peter."

"Well it was worth a try. What else can we do?"

"Hoooooobby Noooooooo YeeeeeeR!" shouted Slimer, emerging from the lift with a party hat on his head, munching a mince pie.

"WAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAGH!" shouted all the ghosts of ghosts in unison, and vanished. Not one was left. There was a sudden whirring from the computer, and as the clock struck twelve, there came a massive cheer from outside the building. Whistles, streamers, singing, all wafted up from Times Square below.

"I think the apple just dropped," said Ray.

"What happened, Egon?" asked Winston.

"Well, strange as it may seem, I believe the other ghosts were thrown into a state of catatonic terror by the appearance of a real ghost."

"You mean Slimer scared them away?" Peter slapped his forehead. "Now I've seen everything! I bet it's really because they were so embarrassed that something as gross as Slimer could still be free."

"Maybe we'll never know," replied Egon, "However, I feel a twenty-two-thousand-page-theoretical-document coming on."

"Before it does," smiled Peter, "Let's get back to ECTO-1, pick up Janine and go and enjoy what's left of the New Year!"

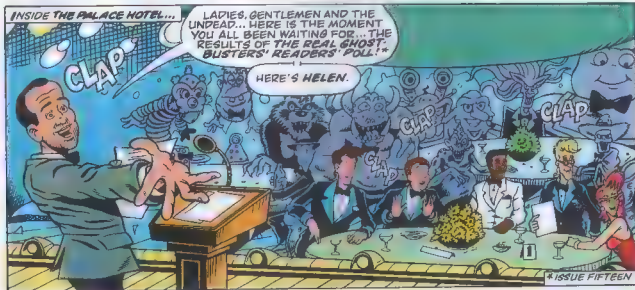
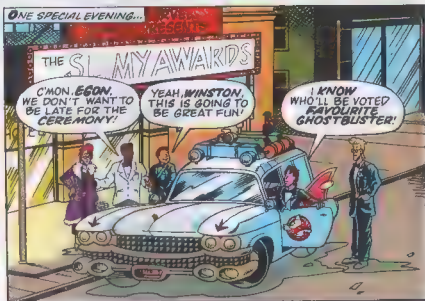
"Yes," said Ray, rubbing his stomach. "There's all that food to take to the party!"

"Slimer," asked Winston, "Where did that mince pie come from?" With a guilty gulp, Slimer sped for the lift, his party hat trailing eerily behind him!

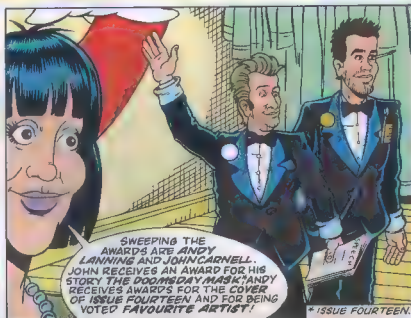
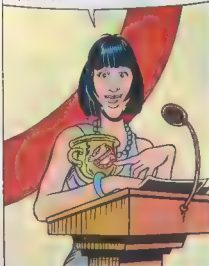
THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS™

THE RESULTS OF
THE FANTASTIC
GHOSTBUSTERS'
READERS' POLL

THE SLIMY AWARDS



THANKYOU, RICHARD. IT GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE TO ANNOUNCE THE WINNERS CHOSEN BY THE READERS IN LAST YEAR'S POLL!



THANKYOU. THANKYOU! I'D JUST LIKE TO SAY THAT IT WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT THE INKING SKILLS OF GUYE WIRE, THE COLOURING OF STEVE WHITE AND THE PATIENCE OF EDITOR RICHARD STARKINGS!

I'D LIKE TO ADD...

THANKYOU, BOYS
KEEP UP THE GOOD
WORK...

IN THE
CATEGORY OF
FAVOURITE GHOST-
BUSTER, THE AWARD
GOES TO DR. PETER
VENKMAN. SLIMER
WAS VOTED WINNER
IN THE FAVOURITE
GHOST CATEGORY!
HAS ANYBODY SEEN
SLIMER?

HE'S PROBABLY
OUT THERE SLIMING
SOMEONE.. YEUCK!

NOW FOR THE CELEBRATION...HERE'S
TO ME... 'THE COOLEST GHOSTBUSTER
THERE EVER COULD BE!'

NO, PETER...
DON'T!

HIYAPETEEY-
BUDDYBUDDY-
BUDDY!

NO!

THAT WAS
YOUR FAULT-
YOU WROTE
THAT!

ALL THE SAME,
IT GOES TO SHOW
THAT I'M STILL
TOP OF THE
SLOPS!



THE FOUR HORSEMEN OF THE APOCALYPSE



The four horsemen appeared as the instruments of the Apocalypse. They were summoned by Quelztalcum, an ancient spirit whose mission was to create Armageddon. The forms of Death, War, Famine and Pestilence appeared to ward off The Ghostbusters who were attempting to save The World. Unfortunately, the Proton Guns proved to be ineffectual against demons of such power and The Ghostbusters were forced to resort

to the ultimate attack – the crossing of the streams. This extreme method is reserved only for the most serious spooks and can never be guaranteed to work. Fortunately, in this case, it blasted the horsemen back through the spiritual plane, and, by disguising themselves as the sons of desecration, The Ghostbusters were able to lull the evil Quelztalcum into a trap and save The World yet again.

GHOST WRITING!



My New Year's Resolution is to try to be kinder to Slimer! If I can do that, then your resolution ought to be to write a letter to me and make my day!

Dear Peter...

In issue nineteen, you said that you never go to the dentist, but surely everyone has to have regular check-ups?
—Jancsi Bornemisza, Bath

Thanks for your letter, Jancsi. You're quite right, everyone should go to the dentist for check-ups every six months—that's the only way to keep your teeth healthy. I was just pulling Ray's leg, because he was so scared that he didn't want to go. Well, you and I know that only cowards are frightened to go to the dentist and that there is nothing to be afraid of really. I do have a dental check-up regularly, that's why I've got such perfect teeth.

If you had a choice to either bust Slimer or Mr Stay-Puft, who would you bust?
—Kristoffer Stevens, Worcester.

Ooooooh! Much as I like to complain about Slimer, and believe me I do like to complain about him, he is nowhere near as dangerous as the dreaded Stay-Puft Marshmallow Man whose main objective was to blow the world into tiny little pieces. For the sake of mankind, I would have to put my own feelings aside and choose to stick with Slimer—that doesn't mean I like him though!

I get THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS every week and I have some questions for you:

1. Why doesn't Slimer have any legs?
2. Why isn't Slimer sick when he eats all that food?
3. Where does Slimer get his slime from?

—Jamie Corstophine, Fife

1. Slimer doesn't have any legs because he is a full-floating, free-roaming half-torso, repeating phantasm! Gee... puff... let me get my breath back! 2. It is almost impossible for Slimer to be sick (I haven't seen it yet, anyway). He processes all that food into slime and disposes of it upon some poor unfortunate person, such as myself! I don't mind because Slimer and I are buddies and it's my New Year's Resolution to be nice to him! 3. Done it! Been there! Answered it! Next!

I have some questions for you:

1. Why don't you get Slimer his own fridge?
2. How did Egon get to be so mega-brainy?
3. Are you naturally cool or did you have to learn?
4. If you had the chance, would you bust Slimer?

—Matthew Inniss, Seven Kings

Thanks for your questions, Matthew. 1. Too late! We've tried that already, but it didn't really make much difference. He's such a nice ghost! 2. He was born that way! 3. I was born that way—some of us are just lucky! 4. As I said, my New Year's Resolution is to be kind to Slimer, so although the old Peter would have busted him from one side of the spirit plane to the other, this year's Peter would have to say no, I could never be so cruel or unkind to such a sweet and endearing creature as Slimer.

In issue nineteen, Ghost Writing, Alan Aitken asked you if you like Diana and you replied 'Diana who?'. I thought I would write in and remind you that she is your girlfriend or have you split up?
—Robert Brett, Aberdeen

Oh, I see! You mean Dana! Yes of course I like Dana, but who's this Diana lady?

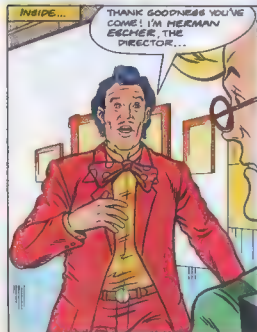
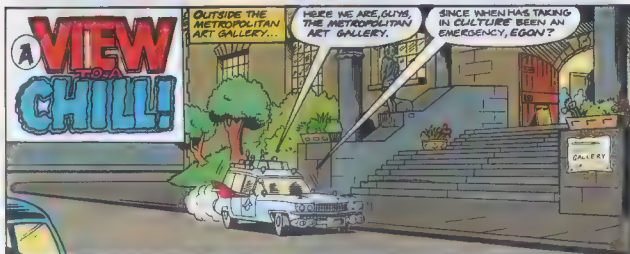
What would you do if a spooky, slimy ghost came up to you when you didn't have your Proton Pack?

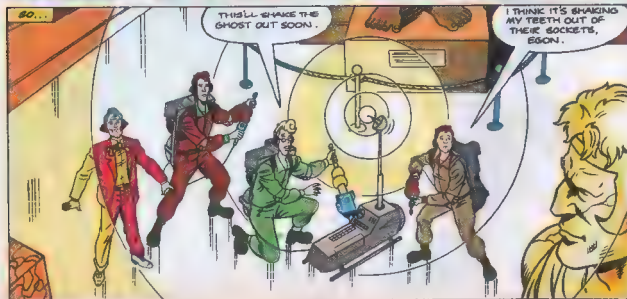
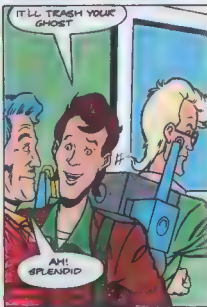
—David Robinson, Berkshire

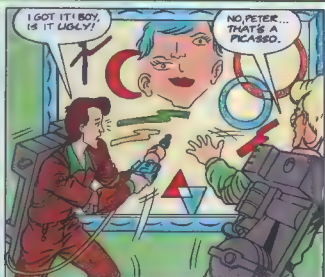
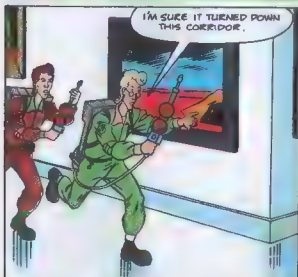
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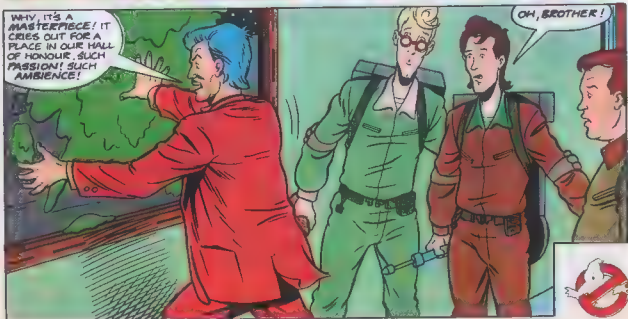
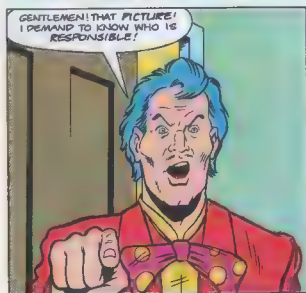
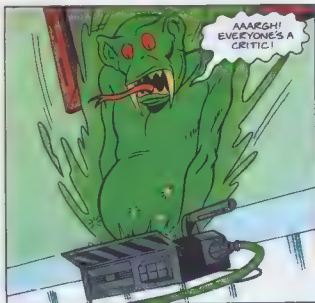
Ghost Writing, Marvel Comics Ltd, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2

THE REAL STBUSTERS™



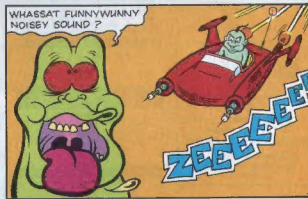
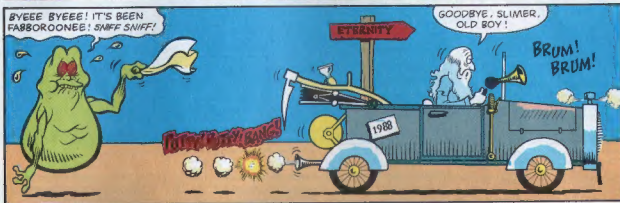






BLIMEY!
IT'S...

SLIMER!



LOOSE CHANGE...



...ALL CHANGE!



IN JUST 7 DAYS

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

☐ **THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS 30** The New Year almost doesn't get off the ground when the Ghostbusters must 'bust... the Old Year? **Just In Time For The New Year** is by Carnell and Elliott. There's also an invitation to see a **View To A Chill**, by Catton and Griffiths, and the results of readers' poll.

☐ **TRANSFORMERS 199** The New Year kicks off with the beginning of the biggest, most shocking Transformers story of all, and – quite possibly – the end of everything! Who will live, who will die? You can find out in the epic **Time Wars** saga. Part 1 is by Furman, Wildman and Baskerville.

☐ **ACTION FORCE MONTHLY 8** Flint takes on Destro in the frozen wastes of the Arctic, with the secrets of Project Omega going to the winner. **Nuclear Winter** is a decidedly chilly Christmas tale brought to you by Steve Alan and Robin Smith. Plus, the return of the Intelligence profiles and Mail Call!

☐ **DEATH'S HEAD 2** Though he won't work for free, Death's Head figures he owes the Chain Gang one for re-building him. Trouble is, the man they want him to hunt down is none other than Scavenger of **Dragon's Claws**! Death's Head lost the first round to the Claws, but this time looks set to be different! **Contractual Obligations** is by Furman, Hitch and Farmer.

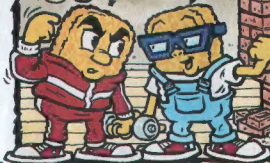
DON'T MISS...

☐ **THUNDERCATS 90** When Lynx-O stumbles into **The Country Of The Blind**, guided by Alan, Braithwaite and Baskerville, what he discovers there may spell disaster for the Thundercats! Plus, text adventure in **Kingdom Of The Ice Cats** and all your favourite Thundercat features.

ON SALE NOW!

THE WEETABIX WORKOUT

I'M REALLY GETTING INTO THIS BODY-BUILDING, DUNK!



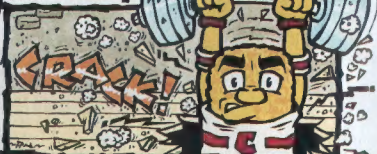
I SEE YOU'VE GOT TO GRIPS WITH THE DUMB-BELL!



THIS IS MY IDEA OF A PRESS-UP!



CRUNCH TAKES ON A LITTLE TOO MUCH!



HOW ARE WE GOING TO FILL A HOLE THIS BIG?



THERE'S ONLY ONE ANSWER TO THAT!



Whole Wheat Cornflour with Extra Vitamins